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**GOVERNMENT OF**

**THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES**

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**Virgin Islands Board of Nurse Licensure**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

On behalf of the Chair, Tanicia Penn, MSN, RN, Vice-Chair Dr. Brittany Dawson, DNP, APRN-CNM, the Virgin Islands Board of Nurse Licensure thanks you for the opportunity to provide updates on new legislation and current statistics.

**Mission** - The mission of the Virgin Islands Board of Nurse Licensure (VIBNL) is to identify and promote effective policies and standards for nursing education, practice, and discipline, which will protect the safety of the public.

**Composition of the Board** -The Nurse Practice Act specifies that the board consists of nine members appointed by the Governor to serve for two to three-year terms. The Board currently consists of eight members and five members are required for a quorum. As of date, the board has one (1) Nurse Anesthetist, one (1) Certified Nurse Midwife, one (1) Nurse Educator, two (2) Varied Nurse Specialist, two (2) Licensed Practical Nurses and one (1) Lay-Person (St. Thomas/St. John District). There is one vacant position for one (1) Lay-Person in the St. Croix District.

**Licensing Statistics –** As of January 2022, Nursys reported Ninety-two active (92) Licensed Practical Nurses, One thousand three hundred twelve (1312) Registered Nurses. The last reported July 2021, One hundred and thirty-nine (139) Active Advance Practice Registered Nurses and One hundred Eighty-Six Certified Nursing Assistants. These are territorial statistics.

**Education** – Approved three (3) Nursing Assistant Programs:

Caring Health Concierge **Inc - St. Croix**

Ralph O Wheatley Skill Center **- St. Thomas District**

Life Skills Training Center  **- St. Thomas District**

**Continuing Education Providers –**

Schneider Regional Medical Center

Virgin Islands State Nurses Association

**Legislation** - Compact Nurse Licensure Bill No. 34-0040 signed by Governor Albert Bryan, Jr. December 13, 2022. We are presently working on the current infrastructure to implement the law.

It is a pleasure to share this information with the Virgin Islands Nurses Association. The Board looks forward to improving health care regulations in the constantly evolving nursing world. We are excited for the changes ahead.

We wish you and your families well during this difficult time. Thank you for your service.